



2014 Gulf Coastal Management & National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) Workshop

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Bayou Lacombe Center
Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge
61389 Hwy 434
Lacombe, LA 70445
2/26-27/2014



Goals

- Learn about: Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States (RESTORE) Act, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) and State Restoration Initiatives
- Discuss integration/coordination of State/NERR programs in restoration programs
- Discuss status of the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) and Coastal Services Center (CSC) merger and implications for the Gulf of Mexico
- Build relationships among National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), State Coastal Zone (CZ) Programs, and NERRs in the Gulf of Mexico
- Learn about the ongoing/future science initiatives related to post-Deepwater Horizon (DWH) in the Gulf of Mexico
- Learn about local CZ and floodplain management issues

Wednesday February 26	
8:00 – 8:30	Meet and Greet
Morning Session: State Presentations and Moderated Discussion	
8:30 – 8:40	Introduction and Welcome Todd Davison, Director <i>NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management-Southern Region</i> Don Haydel, Acting Administrator – Interagency Affairs / Field Services Division; Director – Atchafalaya Basin Program <i>Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management</i>
State Coastal Programs and Federal Agency Presentations: State Restoration Strategies and Integration of Restoration Strategies into Permitting and Policy	
8:40 – 9:05	Louisiana: Louisiana's Restoration Strategy Bren Haase, Deputy Chief <i>Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority</i>
9:05 – 9:30	Texas: Restoration Efforts in Texas Kate Zultner, Coastal Resources Planner <i>Coastal Resources Division, Texas General Land Office</i>

9:30 – 9:55	Alabama: The RESTORE Act, Restoration Activities in Alabama and Permitting Implications Carl Ferraro, Biologist III State Lands Division <i>Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources</i>
9:55 – 10:20	Mississippi: Beneficial Use Program and Permitting Strategies George Ramseur, Beneficial Use of Dredge Material Program <i>Mississippi Department of Marine Resources</i>
10:20 – 10:45	Florida: Gulf Restoration in Florida Kelly Samek, Coastal Program Administrator <i>Florida Department of Environmental Protection</i>
10:45 – 10:55	Break
10:55 – 11:20	Natural Resource Damage Restoration Planning for DWH Oil Spill Cheryl Brodnax, Habitat Restoration Specialist <i>NOAA Habitat Conservation Restoration Center</i>
11:20 – 11:45	USFWS Restoration Strategies in the Gulf Chris Pease, Gulf Coast Restoration Biologist <i>USFWS</i>
11:45 – 12:10	Round Table Questions and Discussion: Where are the State Coastal Programs and NERRs in the restoration planning process? Funding Strategies/Permitting and Policy Integration/Plans for Public Involvement Moderators: Laura Bowie and Tracie Sempier <i>Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA)</i>
12:10 – 1:10	Lunch – Provided
	Feature Presentation: Louisiana's NERR Establishment Efforts and the NERR Establishment Process Dave Ruple, Manager <i>Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Mississippi Department of Marine Resources</i> Dr. Matthew B Bethel, Assistant Executive Director of Research <i>Louisiana Sea Grant Law and Policy Program (LSGLPP)</i>
Afternoon Session	
1:10 – 1:50	NOAA Update on OCRM and CSC Merger/Initiatives Todd Davison, Director <i>NOAA Office for Coastal Management-Southern Region</i>
1:50 – 2:20	Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative: Update of Activities Dr. Chuck Wilson, Chief Science Officer <i>Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative</i>
2:20 – 2:40	Break
2:40 – 3:15	NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program Dr. Julien Lartigue, Engagement Working Group Lead <i>NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program</i>

3:15 – 3:40	<p>NERRs – Future RESTORE and NRDA Related Research</p> <p>Matt Chasse, Program Specialist NOAA</p> <p>Dave Ruple <i>Mississippi Department of Marine Resources</i></p>
3:40 – 4:00	<p>Marine Debris in the Gulf of Mexico</p> <p>Kimberly Albins, Gulf of Mexico Regional Coordinator NOAA Marine Debris Program</p>
4:30 – 6:00	<p>Field Trip to Slidell NWS Weather Forecast Office and Lower MS River Forecast Center: 62300 Airport Rd. Slidell, LA 70460</p>
Thursday February 27	
8:15 – 8:30	<p>Welcome Back and Overview of Day Two's Agenda</p> <p>Marian Hanisko NOAA Coastal Services Center</p>
8:30 – 10:35	<p>Panel Presentations</p> <p>Moderator: Jim Wilkins, Director Louisiana Sea Grant Law and Policy Program (LSGLPP)</p>
8:30 – 9:00	<p>Storm Surge Risk Analysis for the U.S. Gulf Coast</p> <p>Hal Needham, Southern Climate Impact Planning Program Manager</p>
9:00 – 9:30	<p>Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMS) Analysis and Re-Modeling Process in St. Tammany Parish</p> <p>Dr. Elizabeth deEtte Smythe, Regulatory Manager St. Tammany Parish</p>
9:30 – 10:00	<p>National Flood Insurance Program</p> <p>Caitlin Berni, Director of External Affairs Greater New Orleans, Inc.</p>
10:00 – 10:20	<p>Biggert-Waters Act of 2012: Changes on the Horizon</p> <p>Niki Pace, Sr. Research Counsel/Adjunct Professor Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Legal Program</p>
10:20 – 10:35	Break
10:35-11:50	<p>Roving flip chart activity and group discussion</p> <p>Marian Hanisko NOAA Coastal Services Center</p>
11:50 – 12:30	<p>Group Discussion – U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Review of Oil Spill Response Plans</p> <p>Brian Cameron, Environmental Scientist BOEM</p>
12:30 – 1:30	Walking Tour: Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge
1:30	Conference Ends